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2021-09

# September 2021 Naval Postgraduate School Foundation Newsletter

Naval Postgraduate School Foundation & Alumni Association

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## NPS Space Systems Grad Carlos Del Toro Sworn in as 78th Secretary of the Navy



NPS alumnus Carlos Del Toro, Space Systems Engineering '89, was sworn in as the Nation's 78th Secretary of the Navy, August 9. A career Surface Warfare Officer (SWO), Del Toro recently described the professional military education provided by NPS as "a necessary investment by the Department of the Navy to improve readiness across the force." [Read more.](#)

Read Secretary Del Toro's message to the Fleet upon his appointment [here.](#)

## Alumni Association Events



The alumni association returned to the east coast with events in Arlington and Quantico last month. NPS alumni gather for two happy hours allowing for connections across generations of graduates. Retired Adm. James "Sandy" Winnefeld and Lt. Gen. Edward Banta were featured guests at the events, respectively.

The next alumni events will take place at USNI's brand new **Jack C. Conference Center** in Annapolis, MD, Sept. 30, and at Lockheed Martin's **Center for Innovation** – "The Lighthouse" near Norfolk, VA, Oct. 4.

Former Chief of Naval Operations retired Adm. Mike Mullen will be the guest speaker in Annapolis and deputy commander of the United States Fleet Forces Command Vice Adm. James Kilby will be the guest speaker in Norfolk (awaiting confirmation). All Foundation members are welcome! Register now at [npsfoundation.org/alumni-events](https://npsfoundation.org/alumni-events).

Email [alumni@npsfoundation.org](mailto:alumni@npsfoundation.org) to request an alumni event in your area.



### Women of NPS

The Foundation recently celebrated Women's Equality Day by highlighting the students, faculty, and alumni of NPS. Learn more about these accomplished women [here](#).

Follow us on social media for more NPS community highlights and NPS updates!  
**@NPSfoundation**

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## Alumni Spotlight

**Capt. Amy Bauernschmidt**, Nuclear Power School Certificate '15, is now the commanding officer of the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln – becoming the first woman to lead a nuclear carrier in U.S. Navy history.

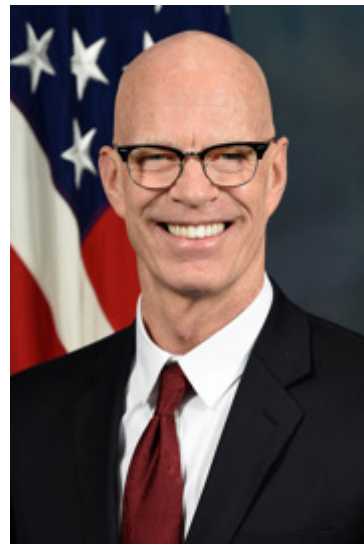
Bauernschmidt began her career as a helicopter pilot, commanded the Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 70 and the amphibious transport dock San Diego, and was the Executive Officer of the Abraham Lincoln from 2016 to 2019. [Read more.](#)



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Retired U.S. Army Col. **Daniel J. “Rags” Ragsdale**, M.S. in Computer Science '90, has been named Vice President - Architect at Two Six Technologies.

Ragsdale was most recently the Department of Defense's acting director of defense research and engineering for modernization, where he helped with the development and disruptive integration of advanced technologies. He has also been the DOD's principal director for cyber and served as a Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency program manager. Additionally, he was the founding director of the Texas A&M Cybersecurity Center, where he led cyber security research and educational activities.







### **NPS Aviation Community Graduates Set to Take Command**

A trio of Naval Aviators studying at NPS are demonstrating how members of their community can take advantage of relevant, high-quality graduate education while staying on track to squadron command.

U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdrs. Michael "Jeeves" Hooten, Philip "Lurch" Pretzinger and Austin "Truffles" Ordway are slated for future command and to become Executive Officers of Naval Aviation Squadrons after their respective graduations. [Read more.](#)

“At NPS, our graduates leave here with the technical and intellectual edge that will help their commands to deter and prevail in the all-domain battlespace. For these three officers, who were fortunate enough to refine those skills at NPS, they are not just prepared to succeed, but to excel.”

– Navy Capt. Edward "Tick" McCabe, NPS' Air Warfare Chair

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### **JIFX 21-4: A Powerful Demonstration of Collaboration in Support of DOD Technologies**

The NPS **Joint Interagency Field Experimentation** (JIFX) program provides an opportunity for NPS faculty, students, private companies, and academia to demonstrate and evaluate new technologies related to the Department of the Navy and the Department of Defense research in an operational field environment, and also to provide the operational community the opportunity to experiment with these technologies to better understand the capabilities that they may represent.

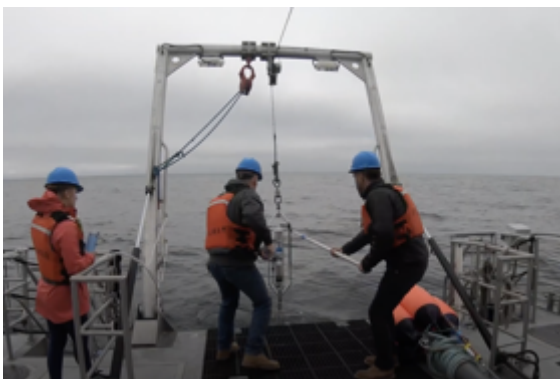
The JIFX Team recently hosted 20 groups conducting 22 different experiments between NPS' two field laboratory sites located at Camp Roberts, California, and

the **Sea Air Land Military Research (SLAMR)** facility adjacent to the NPS campus, with one collaborative experiment conducted via a virtual bridge linking NPS and Plano, Texas. JIFX 21-4 was a powerful demonstration of the JIFX community's ability to optimize collaborative learning to facilitate the rapid development of capabilities.

The next event, JIFX 22-1, is scheduled for November 1 - 5. There will be a dedicated 5G network available at the SLAMR site in November to support experimentation with 5G enabled or equipped technologies. [Learn More.](#)



- (L-R) 1) Craitor Portable, Ruggedized, Intelligent 3D Printer, Craitor, Inc.  
 2) Network Extension and UxS Control Using Commercial Off The Shelf Hardware, CSU Bakersfield  
 3) Automated Aerial Runway Intelligence and Safety Scan System, GreenSight  
 4) Rapid Expeditionary Security Surveillance System (RES3) Sensor in a Box (SiaB), Booz Allen Hamilton



### **NPS Faculty, Students Advance Acoustics Research in Monterey Bay**

Researchers at the Naval Postgraduate School lead a series of data collection efforts in the Monterey Bay supporting several acoustic and signal detection research efforts for the Office of Naval Research, among others. [Learn more](#) about the Vector Sensor Systems Testing in Monterey Bay in this video.

### **New Curriculum for Cyber Warfare Engineers**

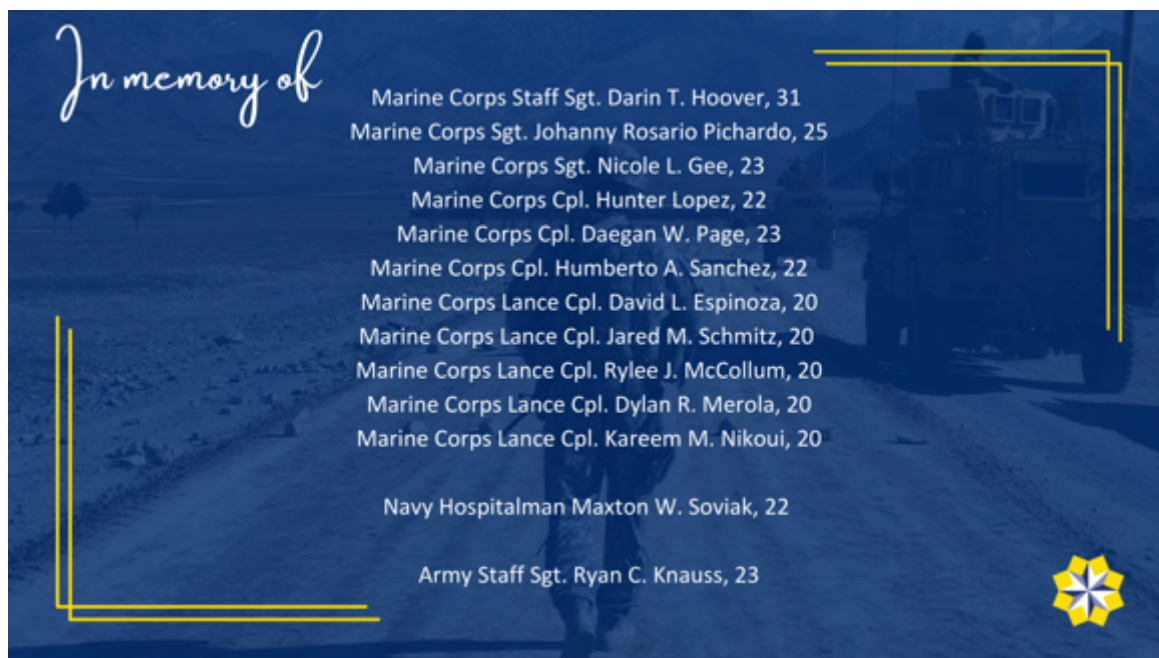
The Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) is launching a new track within the existing Electronic Systems Engineering curriculum in response to the ever-changing and increasing need within cyberspace and the growing Cyber Warfare Engineer (CWE) community. [Read more.](#)

"There is no other university with this breadth of subject matter excellence in cyber," NPS Center for Cyber Warfare Director and Permanent Military Professor U.S. Navy Cmdr. Chad Bollmann, creator of the CWE track.

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## In Memory Of...

Our thoughts are with those whose lives were recently lost in Afghanistan, as well as all the men and women who have stepped forward to defend our country with our coalition partners over two decades in the war on terror. Their commitment and sacrifices along with their families' will always be remembered.



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## Support the Relief Effort in Afghanistan

Visit our website for a comprehensive list of organizations providing direct humanitarian aid to Afghan refugees and Americans abroad. Consider supporting with a monetary donation or through select volunteer opportunities. Feel free to reply with additional resources. We will be updating this list accordingly. **Click Here.**

NPS students can access resources for veterans as events in Afghanistan unfold **here.**

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## SHOP NPS GEAR ONLINE



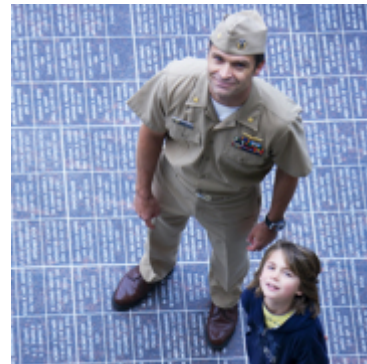
In-store pick-up available for local orders. The shop is now open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Questions about the shop or the merchandise available? Contact the Peacock Shop **Manager**.

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